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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/584,984	05/08/2008	Jei Man Ryu	027707-00031	2429
4372	7590	04/14/2010	EXAMINER	
ARENT FOX LLP 1050 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, N.W. SUITE 400 WASHINGTON, DC 20036			PIHONAK, SARAH	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1627	
			NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			04/14/2010	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

DCIPDocket@arentfox.com
IPMatters@arentfox.com
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Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/584,984

Applicant(s)

RYU ET AL.

Examiner

SARAH PIHONAK

Art Unit

1627

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 January 2010.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/CD)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

This application is a national stage entry of PCT/KR05/03934, filed on 11/22/2005.

Priority

This application claims foreign priority to 10-2004-0096390, filed on 11/23/2004.

Response to Remarks

1. Applicant's arguments, filed 1/22/2010, with respect to the rejection of claims 3 and 5 under 35 USC § 112, first paragraph have been fully considered and are persuasive. The claims have been amended to remove language drawn to 'prevention'. The rejection of claims 3 and 5 under 35 USC § 112, first paragraph has been withdrawn.

Applicant's arguments, regarding the rejection of claims 1-5 under 35 USC § 102(b), and the rejection of claims 6-9 under 35 USC § 103(a) have been fully considered, and are found persuasive in part. The Applicants have argued that while Suh, WO 03/007947 publication teaches the methanesulfonic acid salt of N-hydroxy-4-[5-[4-(5-isopropyl-2-methyl-1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-phenoxy] pentoxy]-benzamidine, the di-methanesulfonic acid salt is not explicitly taught. In further consideration of the claims, the rejection under 35 USC § 102(b) is withdrawn. However, as Suh teaches that methanesulfonic acid salts are preferred salt forms of N-hydroxy-4-[5-[4-(5-isopropyl-2-methyl-1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-phenoxy] pentoxy]-benzamidine, it would have been prima facie obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention, to prepare the di-

methanesulfonic acid salt of N-hydroxy-4-[5-[4-(5-isopropyl-2-methyl-1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-phenoxy] pentoxy]-benzamidine. The Applicants have presented data which shows that the di-methanesulfonic acid salt has better solubility in distilled water and at pH values of 1.2 and 4.0, and 1.5 times better Cmax values than the monomethanesulfonic acid salt. While this data has been fully considered, it is not found persuasive. The di-methanesulfonic acid salt would have been expected to have greater polarity than the monomethanesulfonic acid salt, due to the additional sulfonate group. As such, one would have expected that due to the increased polarity, the water solubility of the di-methanesulfonic acid salt would be increased over the monomethanesulfonic acid salt. Additionally, due to the increased solubility of the dimethanesulfonic acid salt in the carrier, the Cmax would have been expected to be better, in comparison to the monomethanesulfonic acid salt. A modified rejection under 35 USC § 103(a) has been made, which will be discussed in detail further in the office action. Accordingly, this action is made NON-FINAL.

In response to the rejection of claims 1 and 3-9 for obviousness type double patenting over claims 1-12 of copending application no. 11/577469, the Applicants have stated that this rejection is traversed, and they will file a response upon indication of allowable subject matter. This rejection is maintained for reasons of record. Applicants have cancelled claims 9 and 12 of the copending application, and have added new claim 13; the rejection for obviousness double patenting has been modified to reflect this, and will be stated below. Additionally, a new rejection for obviousness type double patenting has been made, which will be discussed in the office action.

2. Claims 1-9 were examined.
3. Claims 1-9 are rejected.

Claim Rejections-35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

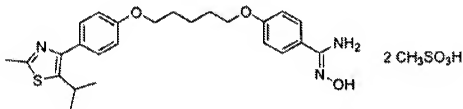
1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

3. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

4. Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Suh, WO 03/007947 publication (previously of record), in view of Karsenty et. al., WO 01/53477 publication, and further in view of Allen et. al., US Patent No. 5,914,329.

The claims are directed to an oral formulation comprising N-hydroxy-4-{5-[4-(5-isopropyl-2-methyl-1,3-thiazol-4-yl)phenoxy]pentoxy} benzamidine 2 methanesulfonic acid salt, an inorganic excipient such as calcium carbonate, and a disintegrant such as sodium starch glycolate or sodium croscarmellose.

The structure of N-hydroxy-4-{5-[4-(5-isopropyl-2-methyl-1,3-thiazol-4-yl)phenoxy]pentoxy} benzamidine 2 methanesulfonic acid salt is shown below:



Suh discloses that the compound, N-hydroxy-4-{5-[4-(5-isopropyl-2-methyl-1,3-thiazol-4-yl)phenoxy]pentoxy} benzamidine, is effective in a composition for treating osteoporosis (p. 3, lines 23-31). Particularly, Suh teaches pharmaceutically acceptable salts of N-hydroxy-4-{5-[4-(5-isopropyl-2-methyl-1,3-thiazol-4-yl)phenoxy]pentoxy} benzamidine, and that salts of methanesulfonic acid are preferred (p. 4, lines 1-13). Pharmaceutically acceptable carriers comprising the compound and salt forms of the compounds are also disclosed (p.4, lines 19-30), as well as therapeutically effective dosages (p. 5, lines 4-12). As Suh teaches the methanesulfonic acid salt of N-hydroxy-

4-{5-[4-(5-isopropyl-2-methyl-1,3-thiazol-4-yl)phenoxy]pentoxy} benzamidine, it would have been expected that in order to form such a salt, the compounds N-hydroxy-4-{5-[4-(5-isopropyl-2-methyl-1,3-thiazol-4-yl)phenoxy]pentoxy} benzamidine and methanesulfonic acid must undergo a reaction. Suh also teaches that the composition is administered orally (p. 4, line 31-p. 5, line 3).

While Suh teaches that methanesulfonic acid salts of N-hydroxy-4-{5-[4-(5-isopropyl-2-methyl-1,3-thiazol-4-yl)phenoxy]pentoxy} benzamidine are preferred, the di-methanesulfonic acid salt is not explicitly taught. Suh teaches that excipients are present in the composition (p. 4, lines 25-30); however, excipients such as calcium carbonate and sodium croscarmellose are not explicitly taught.

Karsenty et. al. teaches that the treatment of bone diseases, including osteoporosis, can be accomplished by modulation of neuropeptide Y activity (Abstract; p. 2, middle and last paragraphs). Karsenty et. al. teaches that treatment of conditions associated with decreased bone mass in comparison to non-diseased bone can be accomplished by agents which lower the amount of neuropeptide Y in serum or cerebrospinal fluid or increase the breakdown of neuropeptide Y (p. 3, 2nd paragraph; p. 59, 1st and 2nd paragraphs). It is taught that a variety of different neuropeptide Y receptor antagonists can be used for such treatment, including dimesylate salts (the ionic form of di-methanesulfonic acid) of agents (last paragraph of p. 11-2nd paragraph of p. 12; p. 57, last paragraph-p. 58, top paragraph).

While Karsenty et. al. teaches that dimesylate salts of agents can be used for the treatment of osteoporosis, it is not explicitly taught that the dimesylate salt is preferred or has increased solubility.

Allen et. al. teaches that neuropeptide Y ligands are used to treat a variety of disorders associated with excess neuropeptide Y (Abstract; column 1, lines 8-17). It is taught that the dimesylate salt of the active agent is preferred, as it has good solubility, stability, and good bioavailability in comparison to other salts (column 3, lines 47-58). The dimesylate salt is also non-hygroscopic at a humidity level less than 90 % (column 5, lines 12-13), and can be administered orally (column 6, lines 36-48). Excipients such as calcium carbonate and calcium phosphate are taught to be suitable for tablets, for oral administration (column 6, lines 49-64). While Allen et. al. does not explicitly teach sodium starch glycolate, disintegrants such as various starches and sodium carboxymethylcellulose are taught (column 6, line 64-column 7, line 30). As sodium croscarmellose is sodium carboxymethylcellulose which has been cross-linked, inclusion of such a disintegrant would have been obvious.

One of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention, would have been motivated to prepare the dimesylate (or di-methanesulfonic acid) salt of N-hydroxy-4-{5-[4-(5-isopropyl-2-methyl-1,3-thiazol-4-yl)phenoxy]pentoxy} benzamidine, because Suh et. al. teaches that the methanesulfonic acid salt is the preferred salt form of this compound which is effective for treating osteoporosis, and Karsenty et. al. and Allen et. al. teach that the dimesylate (di-methanesulfonate or di-methanesulfonic acid) salt of active agents used to treat osteoporosis have better solubility, stability, and

bioavailability in comparison to other pharmaceutically acceptable salts. As N-hydroxy-4-{5-[4-(5-isopropyl-2-methyl-1,3-thiazol-4-yl)phenoxy]pentoxy} benzamidine and the active agents taught by Karsenty et. al. and Allen et. al. are used to treat osteoporosis, and are formulated for oral administration, one of ordinary skill in the art would have expected success in preparing the di-methanesulfonic acid salt of N-hydroxy-4-{5-[4-(5-isopropyl-2-methyl-1,3-thiazol-4-yl)phenoxy]pentoxy} benzamidine, for improved solubility, stability, and bioavailability. Additionally, Allen et. al. teaches that the dimesylate salt is non-hygroscopic up to increased humidity levels. As such, the claims would have been prima facie obvious, as it is taught that the dimesylate salt of active agents used to treat osteoporosis have increased solubility, stability, and bioavailability in comparison to other pharmaceutically acceptable salts.

Claim Rejections-Obviousness Type Double Patenting

5. The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. A nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection is appropriate where the conflicting claims are not identical, but at least one examined application claim is not patentably distinct from the reference claim(s) because the examined application claim is either anticipated by, or would have been obvious over, the reference claim(s). See, e.g., *In re Berg*, 140 F.3d 1428, 46 USPQ2d 1226 (Fed. Cir. 1998); *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) or 1.321(d) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent either is shown to be commonly owned with this application, or claims an invention made as a result of activities undertaken within the scope of a joint research agreement.

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

6. Claims 1 and 3-9 are provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-8, 10-11, and 13 of copending Application No. 11/577469. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because both sets of claims are directed to compositions and formulations comprising N-hydroxy-4-{5-[4-(5-isopropyl-2-methyl-1,3-thiazol-4-yl)phenoxy]pentoxy} benzamidine 2 methanesulfonic acid, and excipients such as calcium carbonate and croscarmellose sodium.

This is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

The instant claims are drawn to N-hydroxy-4-{5-[4-(5-isopropyl-2-methyl-1,3-thiazol-4-yl)phenoxy]pentoxy} benzamidine 2 methanesulfonic acid, and compositions and formulations comprising this compound, along with a carrier and excipients such as calcium carbonate and croscarmellose sodium. The co-pending claims are drawn to an oral preparation comprising pharmaceutically acceptable salts of N-hydroxy-4-{5-[4-(5-isopropyl-2-methyl-1,3-thiazol-4-yl)phenoxy]pentoxy} benzamidine, as well as excipients such as calcium carbonate and croscarmellose sodium. The co-pending claims are also drawn to ratios of the carbonate to the salt of N-hydroxy-4-{5-[4-(5-isopropyl-2-methyl-1,3-thiazol-4-yl)phenoxy]pentoxy} benzamidine, in an amount from 0.4 to 6 parts by weight to one part by weight, as well as the ratio of the disintegrant to N-hydroxy-4-{5-[4-(5-isopropyl-2-methyl-1,3-thiazol-4-yl)phenoxy]pentoxy} benzamidine ranging from

0.5 to 5 parts by weight to one part by weight. Tablets, capsules, and granule forms are also included in the co-pending claims. While the instant claims do not explicitly include the weight ratio limitations or the tablet, capsules, or granule forms, such weight ratios would have been obvious in the development of stable formulations, and tablet and capsule forms would have been obvious for oral formulations. Therefore, as both sets of claims are drawn to compositions and oral formulations comprising N-hydroxy-4-{5-[4-(5-isopropyl-2-methyl-1,3-thiazol-4-yl)phenoxy]pentoxy} benzamidine 2 methanesulfonic acid and excipients, the claims are not patentably distinct from each other.

7. Claims 1-9 are rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-3, 5-8, 9-11, and 13-15 of U.S. Patent No. 7,662,840.

Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because while the claims of the instant application are drawn to N-hydroxy-4-{5-[4-(5-isopropyl-2-methyl-1,3-thiazol-4-yl)phenoxy]pentoxy} benzamidine 2 methanesulfonic acid and a composition, and the claims of the US Patent are drawn to a method of treatment comprising administration of N-hydroxy-4-{5-[4-(5-isopropyl-2-methyl-1,3-thiazol-4-yl)phenoxy]pentoxy} benzamidine or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, a method of using a N-hydroxy-4-{5-[4-(5-isopropyl-2-methyl-1,3-thiazol-4-yl)phenoxy]pentoxy} benzamidine 2 methanesulfonic acid and a composition comprised of N-hydroxy-4-{5-[4-(5-isopropyl-2-methyl-1,3-thiazol-4-yl)phenoxy]pentoxy} benzamidine 2 methanesulfonic acid with excipients would have been prima facie

obvious. The US Patent claims are drawn to a method of treatment comprising N-hydroxy-4-{5-[4-(5-isopropyl-2-methyl-1,3-thiazol-4-yl)phenoxy]pentoxy} benzamidine 2 methanesulfonic acid or a pharmaceutical salt thereof, which would include the di-methanesulfonic acid salt. Additionally a method of making the di-methanesulfonic acid salt and a method of using the salt would also have been prima facie obvious.

Conclusion

8. No claims allowed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to SARAH PIHONAK whose telephone number is (571)270-7710. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 8:00 AM - 6:30 PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sreeni Padmanabhan can be reached on (571)272-0629. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

S.P.

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